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readers. Aside from the fact that questions of authorship, when they lack the sensationalism inevitable in disputes carried on by the respective authors themselves, are in many cases of little importance, the very problem of materialism, taken for granted in the work under review, fascinating as it had been at the end of the eighteenth century, cannot at present add much to make the work worth while.

Those interested in the development of modern physiological psychology will find, however, many valuable passages in the volume. In the days of Marx and Dietzgen psychology and epistemology were not clearly distinguished, and with a few qualifications one may say that the problems in controversy are more logical and psychological than epistemological. But one can hardly ignore these early attempts to establish a new logic. A few quotations will suffice to show, at least, the tendency of these doctrines: "Conceptions do not explain matter, but matter explains conceptions" (p. 707). "Our knowledge does not give us truth, but is only a reflection of reality." In short, an attempt is made to prove that one cannot study processes of thought as something fixed, independent of the contents, afforded by the outer world. But as has been said, the problem is taken for solved, the question is only who solved it: Marx or Dietzgen? To be sure, it is difficult to pass judgment as to who is right; Dietzgen and Marx both acknowledge mutual indebtedness. One closes the book wondering whether "the game was worth the candle." The filial devotion of Eugen Dietzgen in striving to create a name for his father is surely a worthy attitude, but—well, the problem itself is still awaiting solution.

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*Cost of Living in American Towns.* A Report by the Board of Trade.  
London: Darling & Son, 1911. Folio, pp. xcii+533. 5s. 1d.

This volume of statistical information is the report of an inquiry into working-class rents, housing, and retail prices, together with the rates of wages in certain occupations in the principal industrial towns of the United States of America. The results of this inquiry are admirably summarized in two parts, namely: I, a report on conditions in the United States, and II, a comparison of these conditions in the United States with those in Great Britain.

In so far as one can judge of the value of this statistical investigation from the too brief description of the methods thereof set forth in the report, this volume furnishes a wealth of excellent comparative information. The report itself recognizes the difficulties of international statistical comparison afforded by such factors as: (a) possible differences in the continuity of employment and strenuousness of service demanded; (b) the quality of foods which a given expenditure secures; (c) the relative standard of dwelling accommodation provided; and (d) differences in national habit, taste and conditions of supply, all of which are incapable of accurate statistical consideration. The net results, however, set out in the most general form possible, are as follows: The food

of the average English family would cost about 38 per cent more in the United States than in Great Britain and rent would be as 207:100. The cost of food and rent combined (allotting weights of four and one respectively), would therefore be 52 per cent greater in the United States than in England and Wales; but these heavier relative charges on the working-man's income have—as indicated by the three trade-groups: building, engineering, and printing—been accompanied in American towns by weekly wages which are as 230:100. Thus, according to this ratio, a much greater margin is available to the working-man in the United States even when allowance has been made for increased expenditure on food and rent. This margin is, however, curtailed by a scale of expenditure adopted to some extent necessarily, and to some extent voluntarily, in accordance with a different and a higher standard of material comfort.

This volume will be found to contain not only a valuable comparison of the conditions obtaining in America and Great Britain, but also an even more reliable comparison of conditions in the principal industrial towns in the United States.

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*The New Dictionary of Statistics.* By AUGUSTUS D. WEBB. London: Routledge & Sons; and New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1911. Large 8vo, pp. xii+682. \$7.00 net.

This new statistical compendium, announced by its subtitle as "A Complement to the Fourth Edition of Mulhall's *Dictionary of Statistics*," bears at least a superficial resemblance to that familiar volume. In external form and make-up, and in the alphabetical arrangement, within, of compact statistics on a great variety of topics, the similarity is undoubtedly close. But more attentive examination reveals essential differences. The material in the new work has reference almost entirely to recent years: historical data extending back over considerable periods are not included. The naïve and curious odds and ends of information (or misinformation) which Mulhall was wont to collect are also absent. Most important of all, the scientific discrimination shown in handling evidence makes this book a palpable improvement upon its predecessor. Mr. Webb is aware of the danger inherent in any compilation which presents an array of figures apart from the contexts which make them intelligible. He has tried to explain the limitation of the figures he has used. To guard against misunderstandings he has been careful to indicate the cases in which data derived from various sources are not properly comparable. In particular, he has given specific references to the literature from which his statements are taken. The list of publications cited in this way numbers over three hundred titles; and though certain obvious and important authorities are apparently not referred to, the selections on the whole show good judgment. One might wish that the author had gone yet farther by referring his readers more frequently to primary rather than secondary sources. The labor involved in such an attempt would, however, have been almost pro-